

**U.S. Department of Justice**  
*United States Attorney*  
*Western District of New York*

*Further inquiries: (716)843-5814*

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*138 Delaware Avenue*  
*Buffalo, New York 14202*

# PRESS RELEASE

June 8, 2005

**RE: UNITED STATES v. ALLEN LEWIS (a/k/a “Al”, “Frank”, and “Frank White”); JAMAR LEWIS (a/k/a “ MIZZO”); TERRANCE BELL (a/k/a “T” and “Bigman”); RONDELL WADE (a/k/a “GOAT”);PERCY SMITH, FLORA WILLIAMS (a/k/a “FLO”); and ANTHONY GRIMES (a/k/a “ANTMAN”)**

Acting United States Attorney Kathleen M. Mehltrittter and Monroe County District Attorney Michael C. Green announced today the filing of a federal criminal complaint against ALLEN LEWIS (a/k/a “Al”, “Frank”, and “Frank White”), age 24, JAMAR LEWIS (a/k/a “ MIZZO”), age 27, both of 25 De Jong Street, Rochester, New York, TERRANCE BELL (a/k/a “T” and “Bigman”), age 33 of 13 DeJonge Street, RONDELL WADE (a/k/a “GOAT”), PERCY SMITH, FLORA WILLIAMS (a/k/a “FLO”), age 47 of 43 Austin Street, and ANTHONY GRIMES (a/k/a “ANTMAN”), charging them with a violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 846, carrying at least a mandatory minimum penalty of ten years imprisonment and a maximum penalty of life imprisonment, a fine of \$4,000,000.00, or both. It should be noted that the fact that a defendant has been charged with a crime . . . is merely an accusation and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. (**Disciplinary Rule 7-107(B)(6)**).

U.S. Attorney Mehlretter stated that the charges are a result of a joint investigation by federal, state and local law enforcement under the umbrella of Operation Ceasefire and Project Safe Neighborhoods to reduce gun violence on the streets of Rochester, New York. Following incidents of drive-by shootings on and near DeJong Street and a homicide on September 14, 2004 on Langham Street, law enforcement identified individuals and their associates believed to be responsible for the gun violence and criminal activity in the neighborhood. District Attorney Green stated that Jonathan Jones was charged in Monroe County Court and pled guilty to Second Degree Murder for the September 14<sup>th</sup> death of James Brown. On May 26, 2005, Jones received a sentence of 19 years to life imprisonment. Monroe County District Attorney Mike Green stated, "This is another example of a cooperative effort involving the local law enforcement to reduce homicides in our community. The joint State and Federal investigations and prosecutions will not only impact the DeJong/Langham group but also send a message to others that gun violence will not be tolerated. "

U.S. Attorney Mehlretter stated that following the homicide, federal, state and local law enforcement conducted an investigation leading to the filing of charges against the seven individuals charged today. The complaint alleges that the defendants were engaged in the sale of crack cocaine from residences on DeJong Street and in the vicinity of DeJong Street. Additionally, search warrants were executed at five locations in Rochester and three guns were recovered. Allen Lewis, Jamar Lewis, Rondell Wade, Percy Smith and Flora Williams were arraigned before Magistrate Judge Payson, at which time the United

States moved to detain Allen Lewis, Jamar Lewis, Rondall Wade, Percy Smith and Flora Williams.

U.S. Attorney Mehlretter stated that, "The arrests were a part of the continuing effort to target for prosecution individuals and their associates who commit gun violence. These arrests follow a strategy begun during the summer of 2003, of targeting gang members when a member of the gang is responsible for a homicide." Other federal prosecutions include the prosecution of Brandon "B-Low" Latson, the self proclaimed leader of the Dip Set gang, who was charged federally on substantive drug and gun counts, convicted and sentenced to 11 years in federal prison. Another prosecution involved members of the Murder Unit, when on October 21, 2004, an indictment charging Shermell Prather, Jamar Jackson, Willie Thomas, Skyler Fullilove, Norman Sloan, Wilbert Jackson, Jose D. Ortiz, Brandon Pritchett, and Matthew Tucker, a/k/a "China" for violation of Title 21, U.S.C., § 846 and substantive violations of Title 18, U.S.C., § 924(c) was filed. That Indictment charged the defendants are members of a street gang which calls themselves "Murder Unit", or "MU" and that the defendants had conspired with one another to distribute cocaine and cocaine base in the 800 block of Joseph Avenue from approximately January 2000 to the October 2004. It should be noted that the fact that a defendant has been charged with a crime . . . is merely an accusation and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. (**Disciplinary Rule 7-107(B)(6)**).

Part of the effort to reduce gun violence includes "call ins" of individuals under the supervision of state and federal probation and parole authorities, to warn them that

homicides and gun violence will result in law enforcement focusing its efforts on not only the individual who commits the homicide but on all associates of the individual involved in criminal activity.

Today's arrests were the culmination of an investigation on the part of the Drug Enforcement Administration, under the direction of Resident Special Agent in Charge David Zon, the U.S. Marshals Service, under the direction of U.S. Marshal Peter Lawrence, the New York State Police, under the direction of Staff Inspector Mark T. Fischer, the Rochester Police Department, under the direction of Chief Cedrick Alexander, the Monroe County Sheriff's Department under the auspices of the Greater Rochester Area Enforcement Team (GRANET), the National Guard Counter Drug Unit, and the New York State Office of Probation.

The evidence will be presented to the Grand Jury by Everardo Rodriguez, Assistant United States Attorney.

Inquiries regarding Operation Ceasefire may be directed to District Attorney Michael Green at 585-428-2334. Inquiries regarding Project Safe Neighborhoods may be directed to Acting U.S. Attorney Kathleen Mehlretter 716-843-5814.

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